

Summary

Contents



In This Issue

(29/04/2008) | This issue of SA Stats focuses on South Australia's migrant population from 1986 to 2006 and South Australia's ageing population and the labour force from 1997 to 2007.



Demography

Includes: **Estimated Resident Population**

(27/03/2008) | The preliminary estimated resident population (ERP) for South Australia was 1,588,481 at 30 September 2007, an increase of 15,989 persons (1.0%) since 30 September 2006.



State Accounts

Includes: **State Final Demand, Household Final Consumption Expenditure**

(27/03/2008) | South Australia's December 2007 quarter State Final Demand in chain volume (trend) terms was \$17,530m and Australia's Domestic Final Demand was \$266,734m.



Consumption

Includes: **Retail Turnover, New Motor Vehicle Sales**

(27/03/2008) | The January 2008 trend estimate for South Australia's retail turnover was \$1,411.1m, while the estimate for Australia was \$20,183.2m.



Investment

Includes: **Private New Capital Expenditure, Mineral and Petroleum Exploration Expenditure**

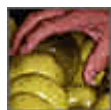
(27/03/2008) | Between the September 2007 and the December 2007 quarters, the South Australian chain volume (trend) estimate of private new capital expenditure decreased by 2.5% to \$1,178m.



Construction

Includes: **Building Approvals**

(27/03/2008) | In January 2008, the total number of dwelling units approved in South Australia (in trend terms) was 1,073. Nationally, the total number of dwelling units approved (in trend terms) was 13,463.



Prices

Includes: **Consumer Price Index (CPI)**

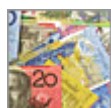
(27/03/2008) | The all groups consumer price index (CPI) for Adelaide increased by 2.7% in the 12 months to December 2007, compared with a 3.0% rise in the weighted average of eight capital cities.



Labour Force

Includes: **Job Vacancies, Employed persons, Unemployment**

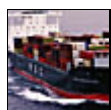
(27/03/2008) | In original terms, South Australia's total number of job vacancies decreased to about 9,400 in November 2007 from 10,000 in August 2007. The November 2007 vacancies were the same as in November 2006.



Incomes

Includes: **Average Weekly Earnings**

(27/03/2008) | The trend estimate of average weekly (ordinary time) earnings for full-time adult persons in South Australia increased by 5.2% to \$1,046.10 in the 12 months to November 2007.



International Merchandise Trade

Includes: **Exports and Imports**

(27/03/2008) | The value of Australian merchandise exports for January 2008 was \$13,185m, which was 4.4% greater than that for January 2007. The value of Australian merchandise imports for January 2008 was \$16,937m, a 16.5% increase from January 2007.



Housing Finance

Includes: **Housing Finance Commitments**

(27/03/2008) | The trend estimate of the total value of housing finance commitments (owner

occupation) in South Australia in January 2008 was \$1,072m, an increase of 15.9% from January 2007.



Water

Includes: **Winter Rainfall, Adelaide's Reservoir levels**

(27/03/2008) | The Bureau of Meteorology's Seasonal Climate Summary for South Australia for summer 2008 reported that the season's rainfall was generally below average apart from the west of the state where it was slightly above average.

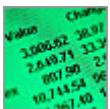


Tourist Accommodation

Includes: **Tourist Accommodation**

(27/03/2008) | Room occupancy rates for hotels, motels and serviced apartments with fifteen or more rooms for the September 2007 quarter were 65.5% for South Australia in trend terms.

In this issue



IN THIS ISSUE

This month's articles focus on South Australia's migrant population from 1986 to 2006 and South Australia's ageing population and the labour force from 1997 to 2007.

The first article in this month's issue is South Australia's Migrant Population, presenting information on people who were born overseas. The proportion of South Australia's population who were born overseas has steadily decreased over the last 20 years. According to data from the Census of Population and Housing, the proportion of South Australian's who were born overseas has reduced from 22.1% in 1986 to 20.3% in 2006.

For the purpose of this article, a migrant is defined as any person born overseas. This article provides an analysis of the reasons for the declining proportion of migrants in South Australia's population. The main findings include:

- the proportion of South Australia's population born overseas has decreased from 22.1% in 1986 to 20.3% in 2006;
- the migrant population in South Australia has a much older age profile compared to Australian born persons;
- in 2006, the median age of South Australian's who were born in Australia was 39 years compared to 52 years for migrants;
- there has been a recent increase in the number of migrants who immigrate to live in South Australia;
- South Australia's share of all settler arrivals in Australia has increased significantly over the last 5 years from 3.0% in 2000-01 to 7.2% in 2006-07; and
- South Australia has a net loss of migrants due to interstate migration, although the size of this loss is decreasing.

The second article, South Australia's Ageing Population and the Labour Force, provides an overview of South Australia's ageing population and its effect on the labour force using data from various sources. Between 1997 and 2007, the South Australian population as a whole aged with the median age of South Australians increasing by three years, from 36 years to 39 years.

South Australia's population is projected to continue to age in the future. If current age and sex specific labour force participation rates remain unchanged in the future, the aggregate labour force participation rate could decrease to about 51% by 2051. Increasing participation rates in groups with low labour force participation rates would be a way of addressing the fall in projected participation rates.

This article provides an overview of South Australia's ageing population and its effect on the labour force. The main findings include:

- the median age of South Australians increased from 36 years to 39 years from 1997 to 2007;
- South Australia's labour force participation rate could decrease to 51% by 2051; and
- a greater proportion of persons aged 55 to 69 were participating in the workforce in 2007 than in 1997.

The figures in South Australia's Ageing Population and the Labour Force exclude overseas visitors.

Other Explanatory Notes are not included in SA Stats in the form found in other ABS publications. Readers are directed to the Explanatory Notes contained in related ABS publications referenced in the feature article.

If you have any comments about this product please contact Liz Finlay on ph: (08) 8237 7417 or alternatively e-mail <sa.statistics@abs.gov.au>.

Articles

South Australia's Migrant Population

This article presents information on Migrants living in South Australia using data from the Census of Population and Housing and the Department of Immigration and Citizenship. The proportion of South Australia's population who are born overseas has steadily decreased over the last 20 years. According to data from the Census of Population and Housing, the proportion of South Australian's who were born overseas has reduced from 22.1% in 1986 to 20.3% in 2006.

South Australia's Ageing Population and the Labour Force

This article provides an overview of South Australia's ageing population and its effect on the labour force using data from various sources. Between 1997 and 2007, the South Australian population as a whole aged with the median age of South Australians increasing by three years, from 36 years to 39 years.

Demography



DEMOGRAPHY

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION

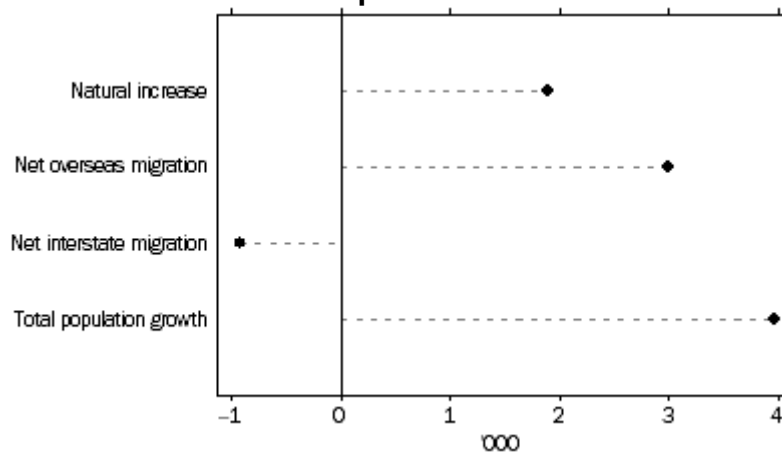
The preliminary estimated resident population (ERP) for South Australia was 1,588,481 at 30 September 2007, an increase of 15,989 persons (1.0%) since 30 September 2006.

All states and territories recorded population growth over the 12 months ended 30 September 2007. Western Australia recorded the largest growth rate (2.4%) and Tasmania recorded the lowest growth rate (0.8%).

For the 12 months ending 30 September 2007, South Australia recorded a natural increase (i.e. the net of births and deaths) of 7,120 persons. Net overseas migration provided a gain of 12,803 persons in the same period while net interstate migration realised a loss of 3,934 persons.

Nationally, the preliminary ERP was 21,097,148 at 30 September 2007, an increase of 318,490 persons (1.5%) since 30 September 2006. For the year ended 30 September 2007, Australia recorded a natural increase in population of 139,388 persons; net overseas migration resulted in a gain of 179,102 people.

QUARTERLY POPULATION CHANGE, Components, South Australia - September 2007 quarter



Source: [Australian Demographic Statistics](#) (cat. no. 3101.0)

State Accounts



STATE ACCOUNTS

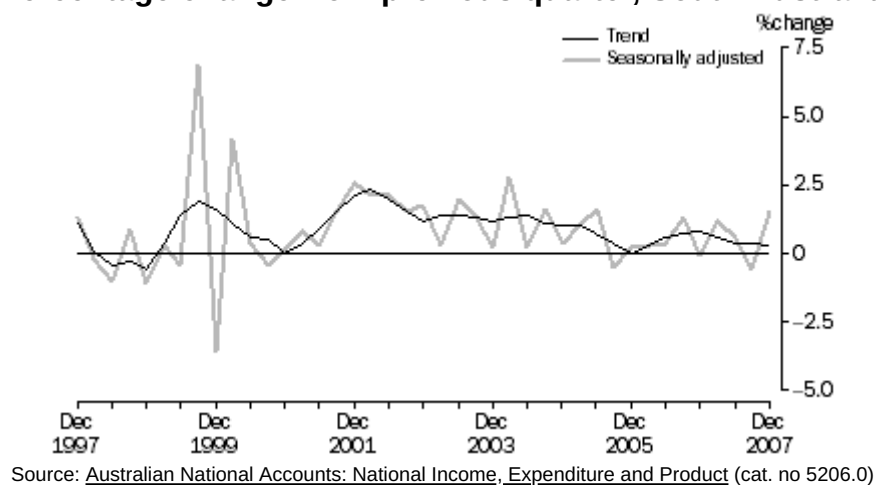
South Australia's December 2007 quarter State Final Demand in chain volume (trend) terms was \$17,530m and Australia's Domestic Final Demand was \$266,734m.

The 0.3% increase in South Australia's State Final Demand from the previous quarter was less than the increase observed in the national Domestic Final Demand (1.1%). Of the other states and territories the strongest growth for the quarter was reported in Tasmania (up 1.6%), followed by Victoria (up 1.4%).

In the December 2007 quarter South Australia's State Final Demand comprised 6.6% of Australian Domestic Final Demand, compared to 7.2% for the December 1997 quarter. The proportional contribution to the Australian Domestic Final Demand of New South Wales and Tasmania also decreased over this time period while that of the other states and territories

(Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia, Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory) increased. The most notable decrease occurred in New South Wales, with a fall from a 34.1% share to 31.1%. Queensland increased its share of Australian Domestic Final Demand from 17.5% to 20.1%.

STATE FINAL DEMAND, Chain volume measures, Percentage change from previous quarter, South Australia



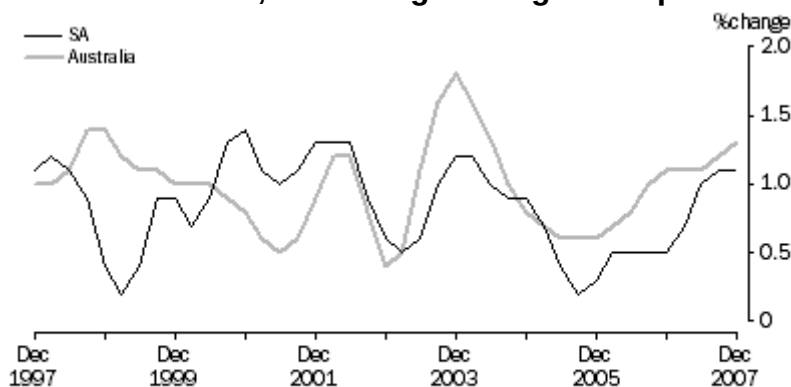
HOUSEHOLD FINAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE (HFCE)

In chain volume (trend) terms, South Australia's December 2007 quarter HFCE was \$10,421m (7.1% of the national total of \$147,791m). This was a 1.1% increase from the September 2007 quarter for South Australia. For Australia, the increase was 1.3%.

The largest increases in expenditure in South Australia for the December 2007 quarter were for Recreation and culture (up 2.5% from the September 2007 quarter), followed by Transport services (up 1.7%). For Australia, the largest increase was for Transport services (up 2.6% from the September 2007 quarter) followed by Recreation and culture (up 2.1%). No expenditure components showed a decrease in the December 2007 quarter.

Comparing the December 2007 quarter and the December 2006 quarter, HFCE increased by 4.0% for South Australia and 4.7% for Australia. The expenditure components which showed the largest increases for South Australia during this period were Purchase of vehicles (up 10.3%) and Furnishings and household equipment (up 9.4%). The expenditure components which showed the largest increase for Australia were Purchase of vehicles (up 8.7%) and Clothing and footwear (up 7.9%).

HOUSEHOLD FINAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE(a), Trend, Chain volume measures, Percentage change from previous quarter



Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no 5206.0)

Consumption

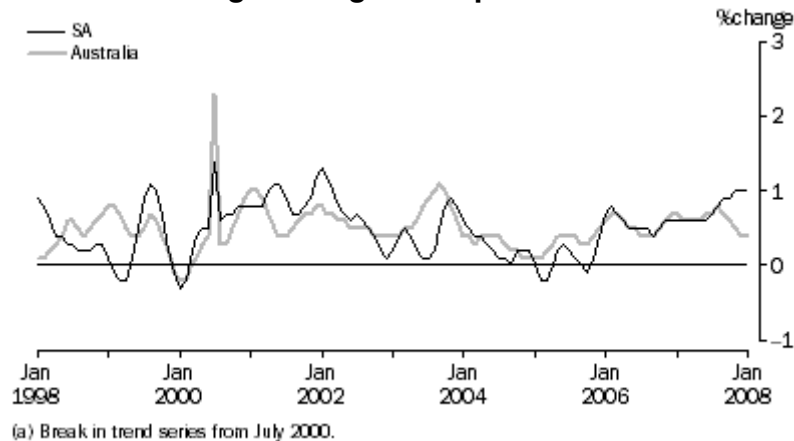


CONSUMPTION

RETAIL TURNOVER

The January 2008 trend estimate for South Australia's retail turnover was \$1,411.1m, while the estimate for Australia was \$20,183.2m. From December 2008 the increase in turnover across all retail industries for South Australia was 1.0% and a 0.4% nationally.

RETAIL TURNOVER(a), Current prices, Trend, Percentage change from previous month

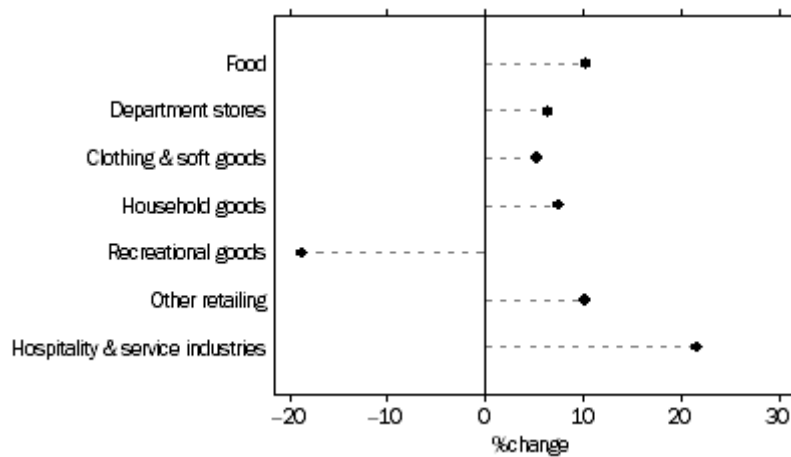


Source: [Retail Trade, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8501.0)

Comparing January 2008 with January 2007, retail turnover (trend) increased by 9.7% for South Australia and 7.4% for Australia.

Over the same period, the two South Australian industry groups with the largest percentage increases in retail turnover (trend) were Hospitality and service industries, rising by 21.7% (to \$226.4m), and Food, rising by 10.3% (to \$596.3m). The South Australian industry group which reported the largest decrease in retail turnover (trend) was Recreational goods retailing, which decreased by 18.7% to \$43.8m.

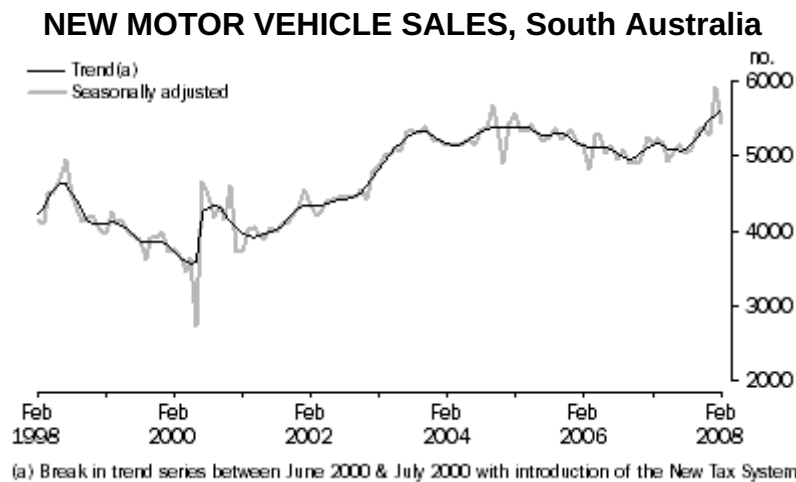
RETAIL TURNOVER BY INDUSTRY GROUP, Current prices, Trend, Percentage change over last twelve months, South Australia - January 2008



Source: [Retail Trade, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8501.0)

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES

In February 2008, 3,442 new passenger vehicles and 5,633 new vehicles in total (in trend terms) were sold in South Australia. Corresponding sales for Australia were 53,746 and 91,300.



Source: Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia (cat. no. 9314.0.)

Investment



INVESTMENT

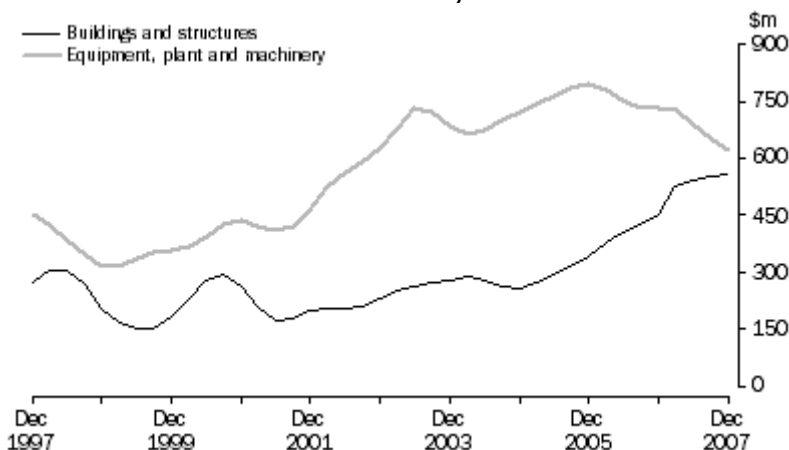
PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Between the September 2007 and the December 2007 quarters, the South Australian chain volume (trend) estimate of private new capital expenditure decreased by 2.5% to \$1,178m. Expenditure on Equipment, plant and machinery decreased by \$35m (or 5.3%) to \$620m, while expenditure on Buildings and structures increased by \$5m (or 0.9%) to \$558m. For the same period, private new capital expenditure for Australia increased by 0.3% to \$20,453m. Expenditure on Buildings and structures decreased 1.2%, while Equipment, plant and machinery expenditure increased 1.3% over this period.

Comparing the December 2007 quarter with the December 2006 quarter, South Australia's total private new capital expenditure decreased by 0.5%. Expenditure on Equipment, plant

and machinery decreased by 15.3% while expenditure on Buildings and structures increased by 23.7% over this period.

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, Trend, Chain volume measures, South Australia



Source: Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia (cat. no. 5625.0)

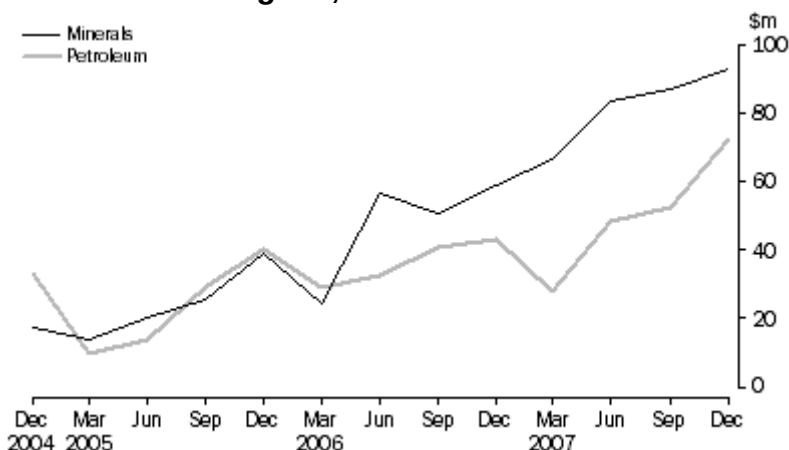
MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE

The value in original terms of mineral exploration expenditure in South Australia in the December 2007 quarter was \$93.5m, up 7.2% from the September 2007 quarter. From December 2006 to December 2007, the value of mineral exploration expenditure in South Australia increased 58.2% from \$59.1m to \$93.5m. Over the same period, Australian expenditure on mineral exploration increased 39.6% from \$448.2m in December 2006 to \$625.9m in December 2007.

Of the \$93.5m mineral exploration expenditure in South Australia in the December 2007 quarter, \$37.3m was for uranium exploration, \$25.5m for copper and \$16.4m was for gold.

The December 2007 quarter expenditure on petroleum exploration in South Australia (\$72.5m) was 67.1% higher than in December 2006 quarter (\$43.4m). Nationally, expenditure on petroleum exploration increased from \$544.5m in the December 2006 quarter to \$770.0m in the December 2007 quarter (an increase of 41.4%). In the December 2007 quarter, 66.6% of all petroleum exploration expenditure in Australia was in Western Australia.

MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE, Original, South Australia



Source: Mineral and Petroleum Exploration, Australia (cat. no. 8412.0)

Construction



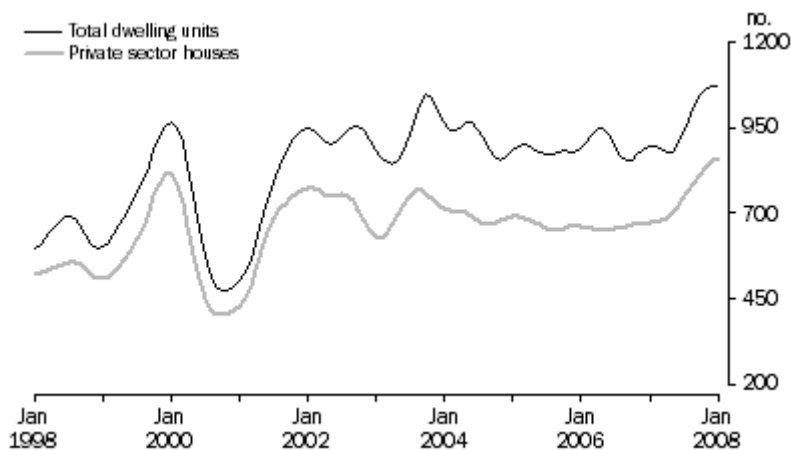
CONSTRUCTION

BUILDING APPROVALS

In January 2008, the total number of dwelling units approved in South Australia (in trend terms) was 1,073. This was the first month where the number of dwelling units approved decreased since May 2007. Nationally, the total number of dwelling units approved (in trend terms) was 13,463.

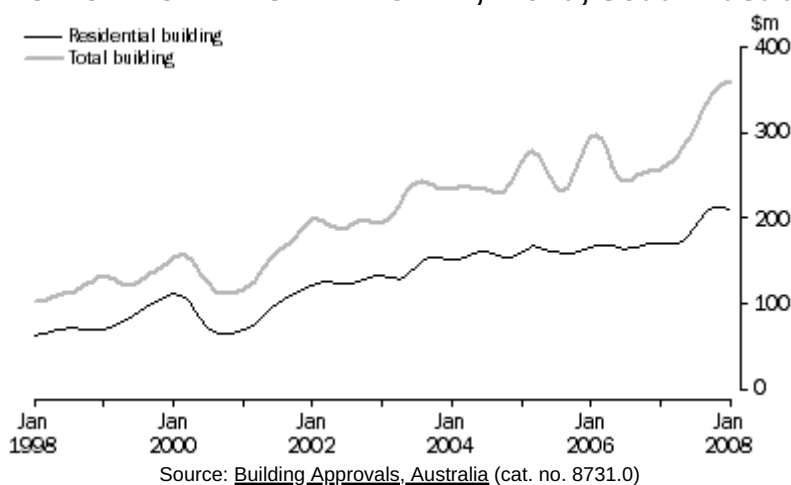
The trend estimate for the number of private sector houses approved in South Australia in January 2008 was 864. This was the twentieth consecutive month where the number of private sector houses approved increased.

DWELLING UNITS APPROVED, Trend, South Australia

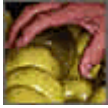


In January 2008, the total value of building work approved (in trend terms) in South Australia was \$361.2m. The value of residential building work approved was \$208.5m.

VALUE OF BUILDING APPROVED, Trend, South Australia



Prices

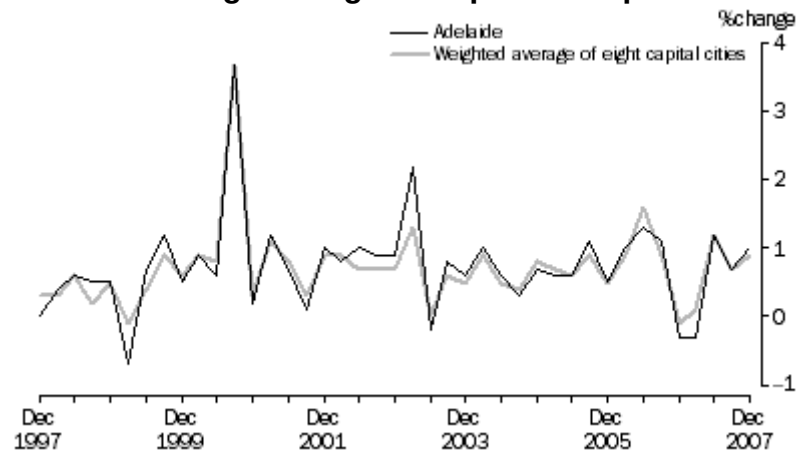


PRICES

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The all groups consumer price index (CPI) for Adelaide increased by 2.7% in the 12 months to December 2007, compared with a 3.0% rise in the weighted average of eight capital cities. Adelaide's CPI rose 1.0% in December 2007 while the weighted average of eight capital cities rose by 0.9% in this month.

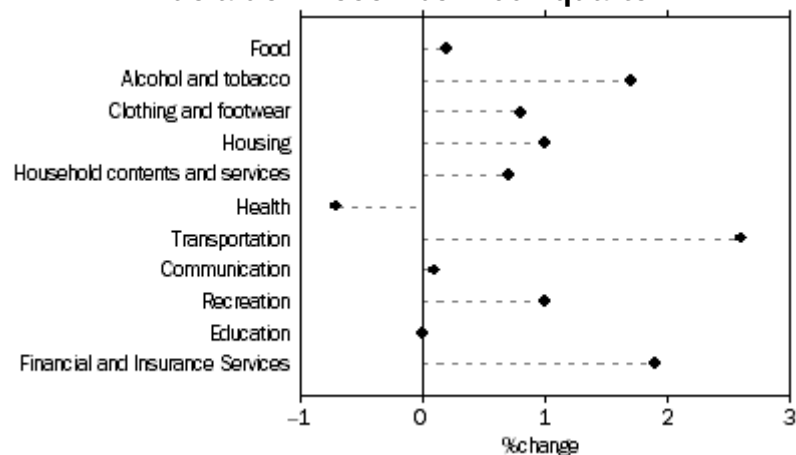
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - ALL GROUPS, Original, Percentage change from previous quarter



Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6401.0)

Adelaide's largest percentage increases in prices from the previous quarter were Transportation (2.6%) and Financial and other services (1.9%). The only percentage decrease in prices from the previous quarter was Health (-0.7%).

CPI MOVEMENT, Original, Percentage change from previous quarter, Adelaide - December 2007 quarter



Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6401.0)

Labour Force

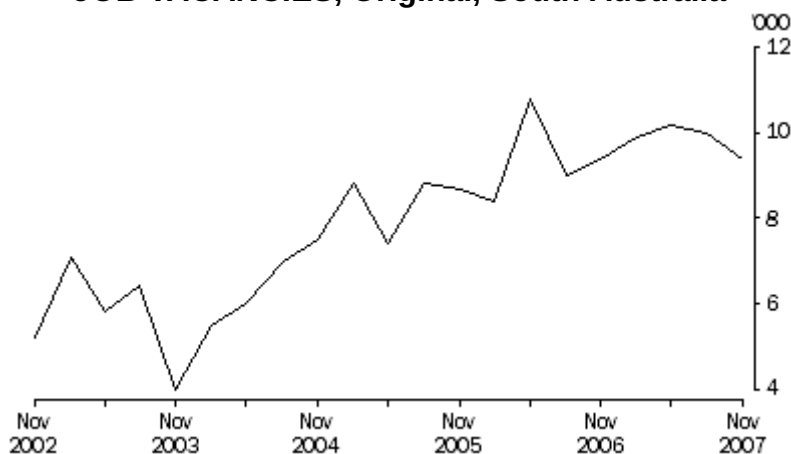


LABOUR FORCE

JOB VACANCIES

In original terms, South Australia's total number of job vacancies decreased to about 9,400 in November 2007 from 10,000 in August 2007. The November 2007 vacancies were the same as in November 2006. Australia-wide, job vacancies increased from 173,100 in August 2007 to 182,800 in November 2007. Australian job vacancies in November 2007 were 13% higher than in November 2006.

JOB VACANCIES, Original, South Australia



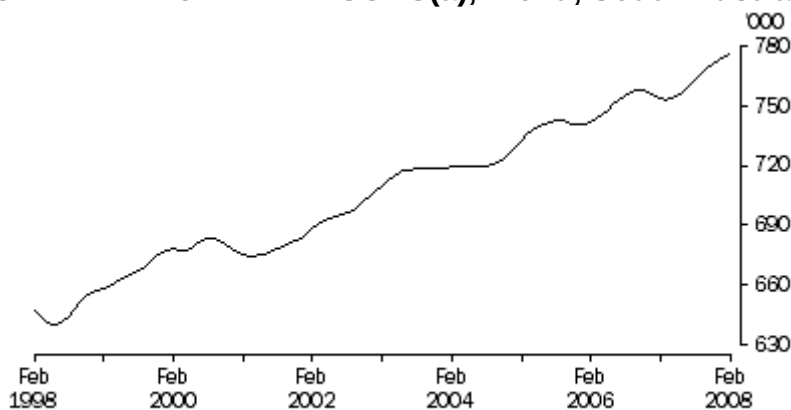
Source: [Job Vacancies, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6354.0)

EMPLOYED PERSONS

In trend terms, the total number of persons employed in South Australia in February 2008 was 775,800. This was a 2.9% increase on the number of persons employed in February 2007 (754,200). The total number of persons employed in Australia in February 2008 was 10,649,700, a 2.7% increase on the number employed in February 2007 (10,371,300).

The number of males employed full-time in South Australia in February 2008 was 351,000 (in trend terms), up 2.6% from February 2007. The number of females employed full-time in South Australia in February 2008 was 185,400 (in trend terms), up 6.5% from February 2007.

TOTAL EMPLOYED PERSONS(a), Trend, South Australia



(a) Series break at April 2001.

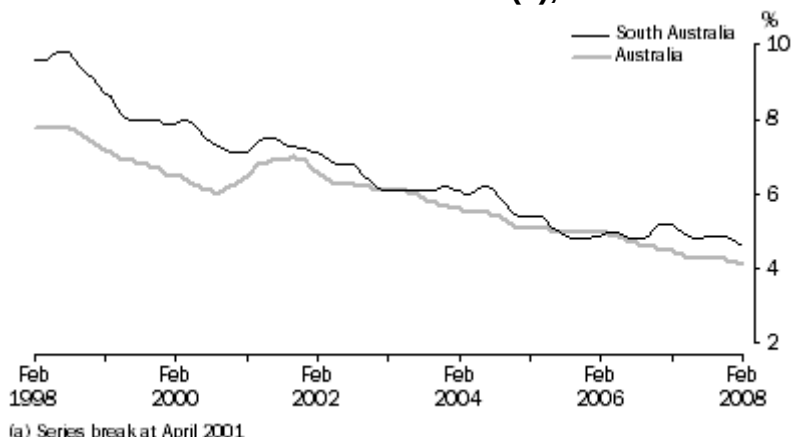
Source: [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0)

UNEMPLOYMENT

The trend estimate unemployment rate for South Australia decreased to 4.6% in February

2008, from 4.7% in January 2008. This was the third consecutive month where the unemployment rate for South Australia had decreased. Australia's unemployment rate decreased to 4.1% in February 2008, from 4.2% in January 2008.

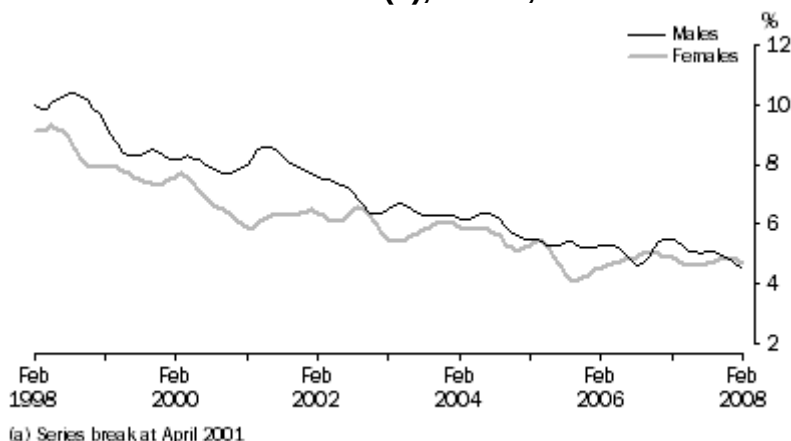
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE(a), Trend



Source: [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0)

For South Australia, the trend unemployment rate for males decreased to 4.5% in February 2008, down from 4.6% in January 2008. The trend unemployment rate for females similarly decreased over this period, from 4.8% in January 2008 to 4.7% in February 2008.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE(a), Trend, South Australia

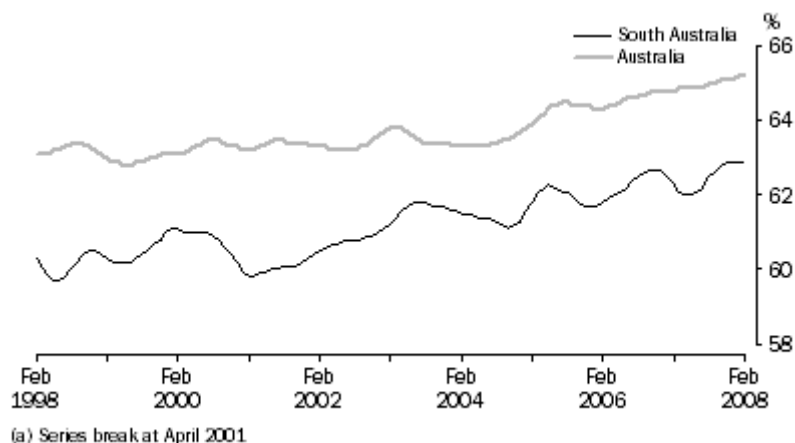


Source: [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0)

PARTICIPATION RATE

The trend estimate of the participation rate for South Australia in February 2008 was 62.9%, the same as in January 2008. In the ten year period from February 1998, the lowest participation rate estimate was 59.7% in May and June of 1998. Australia's trend participation rate also remained steady from January 2008 to February 2008 at 65.2%. The lowest participation rate reported for Australia for the ten year period from February 1998 was 62.8% in April and May of 1999.

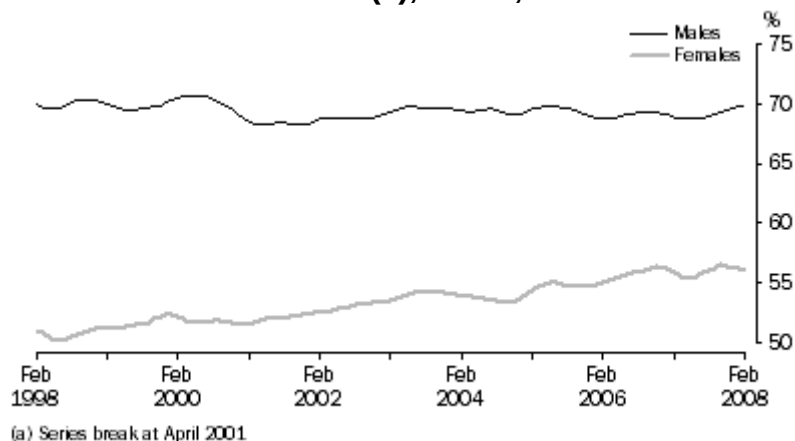
PARTICIPATION RATE(a), Trend



Source: [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0)

For South Australia, the trend participation rate for females was 56.1% in February 2008, down from 56.2% in January 2008. Nationally, the female participation rate was steady at 58.1% in February 2008. The participation rate for South Australian males increased to 69.9% in February 2008, up from 69.8% in January 2008. The Australian participation rate for males has been consistently higher than that for South Australia, and was steady at 72.5% in February 2008.

PARTICIPATION RATE(a), Trend, South Australia



Source: [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0)

Incomes



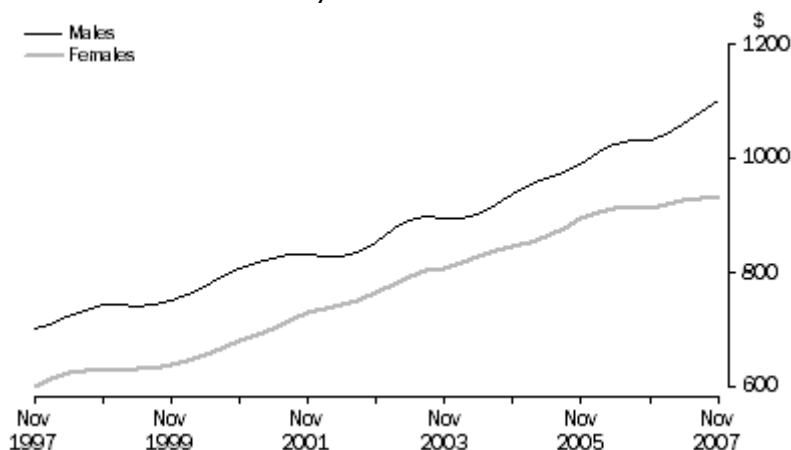
INCOMES

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

The trend estimate of average weekly (ordinary time) earnings for full-time adult persons in South Australia increased by 5.2% to \$1,046.10 in the 12 months to November 2007. Nationally, the corresponding increase was less at 4.9% (up to \$1,112.70).

For South Australia, the trend estimate of average weekly (ordinary time, full-time adult) earnings rose by 6.6% for males and 2.1% for females over the 12 months to November 2007.

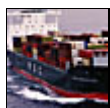
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, FULL-TIME ADULT ORDINARY, Trend, South Australia



Source: Average Weekly Earnings, Australia (cat. no. 6302.0)

At November 2007, male average weekly earnings (\$1,101.80) in South Australia were 18.0% higher than the corresponding female earnings (\$933.50). Nationally, in November 2007 male average weekly earnings (\$1,180.00) were 19.0% higher than the female earnings (\$991.60).

International Merchandise Trade



INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS

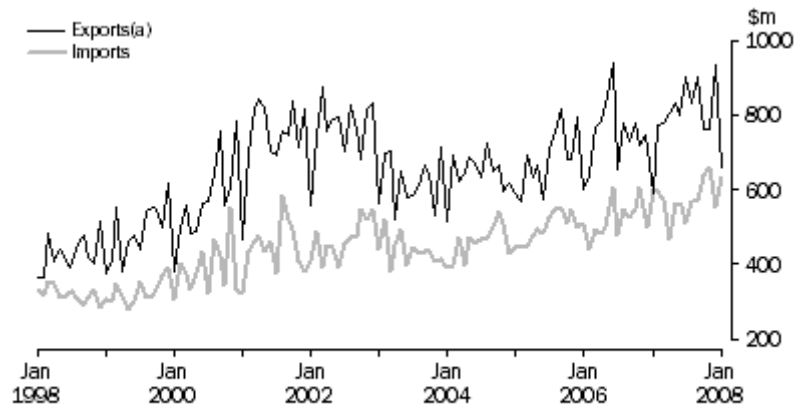
South Australia's value of exports (in original terms) in January 2008 was \$657m, an increase of 10.8% from the value of exports in January 2007 (\$593m). The largest reported increases in value of exports over this period were for Road vehicles, parts and accessories (up \$58.6m, or 502.4%) and Petroleum and petroleum products (up \$5.9m, or 25.9%). The largest declines in value were reported for the exports of Metals and metal manufactures (down \$66.0m, or 37.5%) and Wine (down \$6.6m, or 6.1%).

The value of Australian merchandise exports for January 2008 was \$13,185m, which was 4.4% greater than that for January 2007.

The value of South Australian merchandise imports increased to \$634m in January 2008 from \$554m in December 2007. In January 2007 the state's merchandise imports amounted to \$600m.

The value of Australian merchandise imports for January 2008 was \$16,937m, a 16.5% increase from January 2007.

VALUE OF MERCHANDISE EXPORTS AND IMPORTS, Original, South Australia



(a) State in which the final stage of production or manufacture occurs.

Source: [International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia](#) (cat. no. 5368.0)

Housing Finance

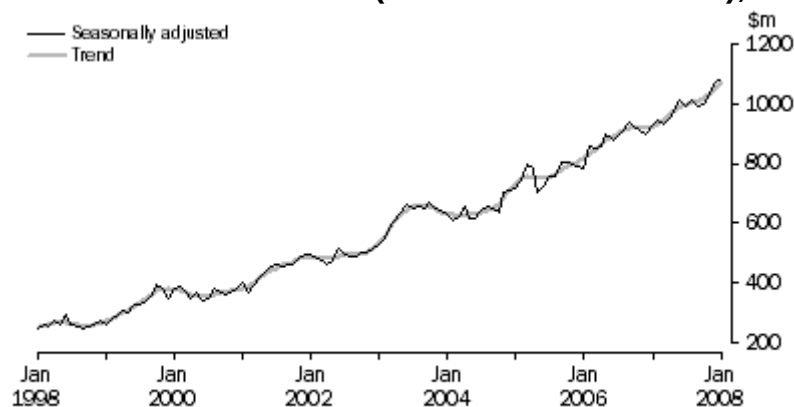


HOUSING FINANCE

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS

The trend estimate of the total value of housing finance commitments (owner occupation) in South Australia in January 2008 was \$1,072m, an increase of 15.9% from January 2007. Nationally, for the same period, the increase was lower at 10.1% (to a total of \$15,775m).

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS (OWNER OCCUPATION), South Australia

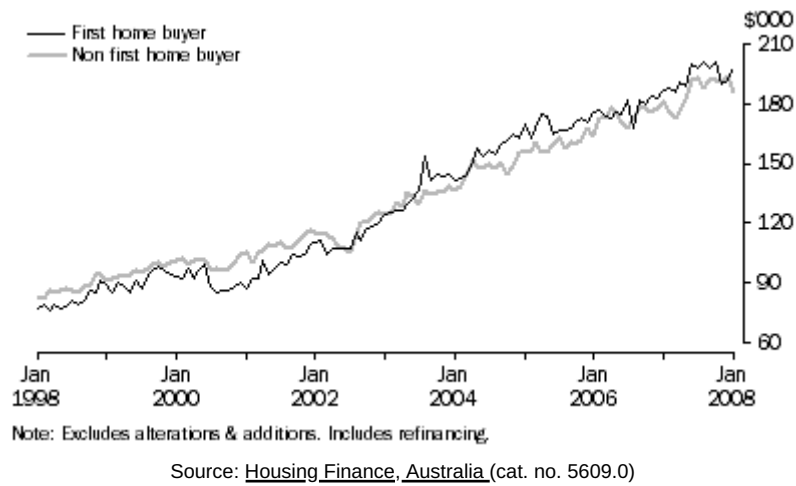


Note: Excludes alterations & additions. Includes refinancing.

Source: [Housing Finance, Australia](#) (cat. no. 5609.0)

Since January 1998, the average home loan commitment for owner occupied dwellings in South Australia has more than doubled from \$82,500 to \$188,100 in January 2008. In January 2008 the average loan size for first home buyers was \$198,400, which was 6.4% greater than the average loan size of \$186,500 for non-first home buyers. The average home loan commitment for owner occupied dwellings in Australia in January 2008 was \$233,900.

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS (OWNER OCCUPATION), Original, Average Loan Size by Type of Buyer, South Australia



Water

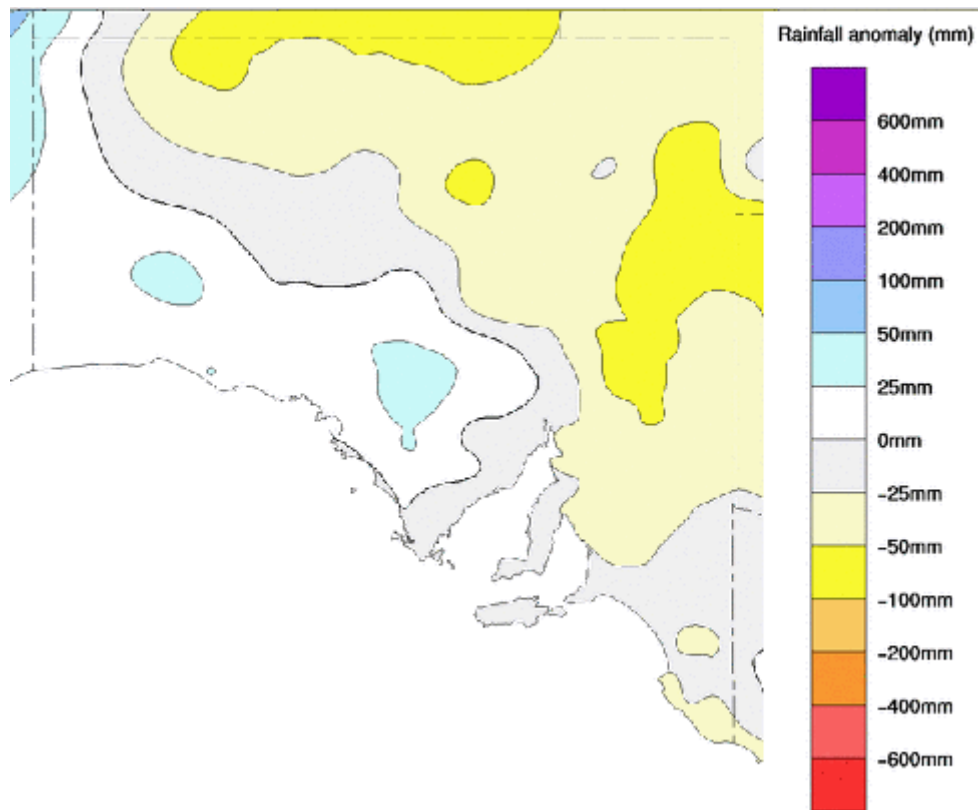


WATER

SUMMER RAINFALL

The [Bureau of Meteorology's Seasonal Climate Summary for South Australia](#) for summer 2008 reported that the season's rainfall was generally below average apart from the west of the state where it was slightly above average. The Pastoral Districts reported totals that were generally above average in Northwest pastoral district but generally below average elsewhere. In the Agricultural areas rainfall was above average in the Western Agricultural districts but below average elsewhere.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN RAINFALL ANOMALIES 1 December to 29 February 2008, South Australia, Product of the National Climate Centre

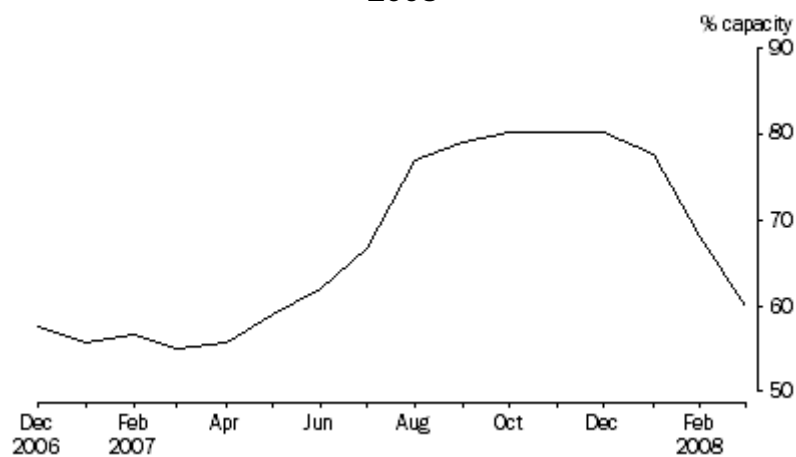


Source: 3-monthly rainfall anomalies for South Australia, Australian Bureau of Meteorology, issued 01/03/08
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RESERVOIR LEVELS

The total water storage in Adelaide's reservoirs at the end of February 2008 (the end of summer and beginning of Autumn) was 60% of capacity, compared with 55% at the same time in 2006.

TOTAL RESERVOIR STORAGE, as a percentage of capacity, Adelaide - 29 February 2008



Source: SA Water, daily reservoir levels

Tourist Accommodation



TOURIST ACCOMMODATION

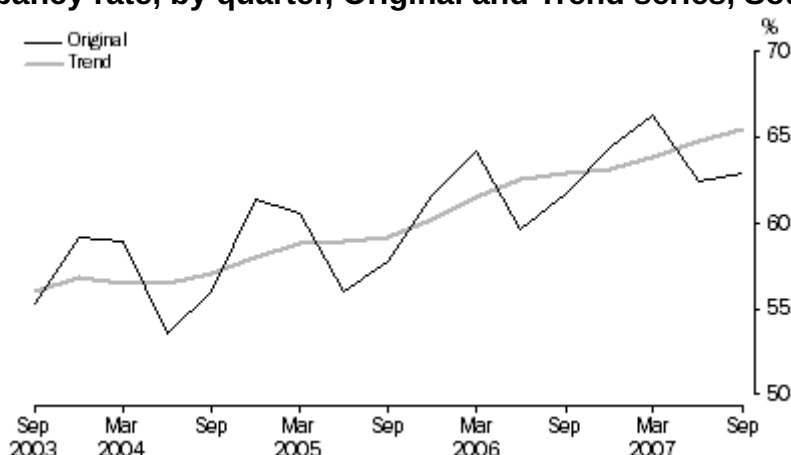
The total takings from all forms of tourist accommodation in South Australia in the September 2007 quarter were \$102.9 million, which was 4.2% of the Australian total of \$2,457.3 million. For the year ended September 2007, total tourist accommodation takings in South Australia were \$428.3 million, or 4.6% of the Australian total. The South Australian takings had increased by 7.4% over those for the year ended September 2006.

For the year ending September 2007, tourist guest arrivals at South Australian hotels, motels and serviced apartments with five or more rooms and visitor hostels amounted to 2,522,318 persons, or 5.4% of the Australian total, and 4.2% more than for the year ended September 2006.

For the year ended September 2007, takings from hotels, motels and serviced apartments with fifteen or more rooms in South Australia were \$324.9 million, or 75.9% of the total tourist accommodation takings. Similarly, this type of accommodation caters for over three-quarters of the guest arrivals, with 2,184,800 (or 86.6% of all guests) being received in South Australia in the year ended September 2007.

Room occupancy rates for hotels, motels and serviced apartments with fifteen or more rooms for the September 2007 quarter were 65.5% for South Australia in trend terms.

HOTELS, MOTELS AND SERVICED APARTMENTS WITH 15 OR MORE ROOMS, Room occupancy rate, by quarter, Original and Trend series, South Australia



Source: [Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, South Australia - Electronic Delivery, Sep 2007](#) (cat. no. 8635.4.55.001)

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About this Release

SA Stats provides an overview of the South Australian economy. The overview will be updated on a quarterly basis (in March, June, September and December) and in the intervening months the publication will include feature articles that provide a South Australian focus on economic, social and environmental issues.

Explanatory Notes are not included in SA Stats in the form found in other ABS publications. Readers are directed to the Explanatory Notes contained in related ABS publications (links to source documents are provided in the summary table).

Replaces: South Australian Economic Indicators (cat. no. 1307.4)

South Australia's Migrant Population (Feature Article)

SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S MIGRANT POPULATION

Throughout this article, a person born overseas will be referred to as a migrant.

OVERVIEW

The cultural mix of South Australia's population is an important aspect of community life in South Australia. From 1986 to 2006, the number of South Australian migrants increased slightly but as a proportion of the total South Australian population they decreased. In 2006, there were 307,679 migrants living in South Australia ([Census of Population and Housing 2006](#)). Over the 20 years from 1986 to 2006, the number of migrants living in South Australia increased 3.2%. However, this was significantly lower than the population growth rate of persons born in Australia which increased 8.4% during the same period.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S POPULATION - 1986 to 2006

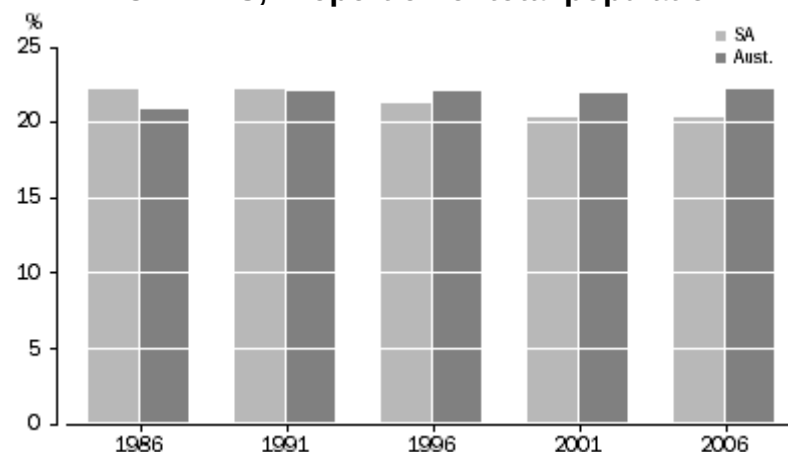
	Born overseas		Born in Australia		Total population (a)	
	no.	% change	no.	% change	no.	% change
1986	298,257	-	1,033,166	-	1,348,047	-
1991	312,184	4.6%	1,074,140	4.0%	1,408,638	4.5%
1996	305,524	-2.1%	1,088,580	1.3%	1,437,193	2.0%
2001	299,109	-2.1%	1,107,436	1.7%	1,470,057	2.3%
2006	307,679	2.9%	1,120,085	1.1%	1,514,336	3.0%

(a) Includes country of birth not stated.

Source: Census of Population and Housing, data available on request

Due to the slower population growth rate of migrants in South Australia compared to Australian born, the proportion of South Australia's population who are migrants decreased from 1986 to 2006. Since 1986, the proportion of South Australians who were migrants has reduced from 22.1% in 1986 to 20.3% in 2006. Nationally, the proportion of the population born overseas has increased from 20.8% in 1986 to 22.2% in 2006.

MIGRANTS, Proportion of total population



Source: Census of Population and Housing, data available on request

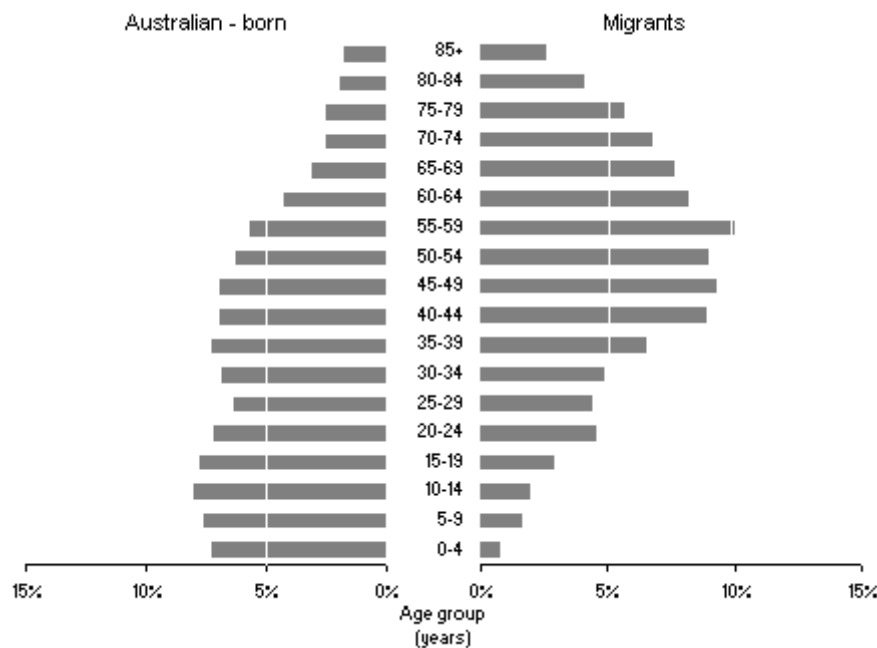
The growth of the migrant population in South Australia has not kept pace with that of persons born in Australia. This article analyses the components of population change that affect the rate of growth of the migrant population in South Australia; namely, the age profile of migrants (and hence the death rate), overseas migration and interstate migration.

AGE PROFILE OF MIGRANTS

The age profile of migrants in South Australia is older than South Australians who were born in Australia. In results for the 2006 Census, the median age of Australian-born South Australians was 39 years, whilst the median age of migrants in South Australia was 52 years.

Accordingly, the distribution of the migrant population in South Australia across age categories is more concentrated in older age categories than Australian-born South Australians. Nearly half (45.0%) of South Australian migrants were in the 55 years and over age group. This is more than double the proportion of Australian-born persons in the state within this age group (21.7%).

PROPORTIONS WITHIN EACH AGE GROUP, Migrants and persons born in Australia, South Australia - 2006



Source: [Census of Population and Housing 2006, Census Tables](#)

It is not unexpected to see small proportions of the migrant population in the younger age groups. Only children who immigrate to Australia with their parents will be shown in these younger age groups. Children who are born to migrants once they arrive in Australia are included in the 'Australian born' category.

The present age structure of migrants in South Australia is also indicative of the history of migration to South Australia. In 2006, the year of arrival reported by migrants in the Census of Population and Housing clearly shows that most migrants residing in South Australia arrived between the late 1940's to early 1970's. However, recent changes to immigration policies have caused a steep increase in the number of migrants arriving in South Australia.

YEAR OF ARRIVAL IN AUSTRALIA, Persons born overseas, South Australia - 1940-2005



Source: Census of Population and Housing 2006, Census Tables

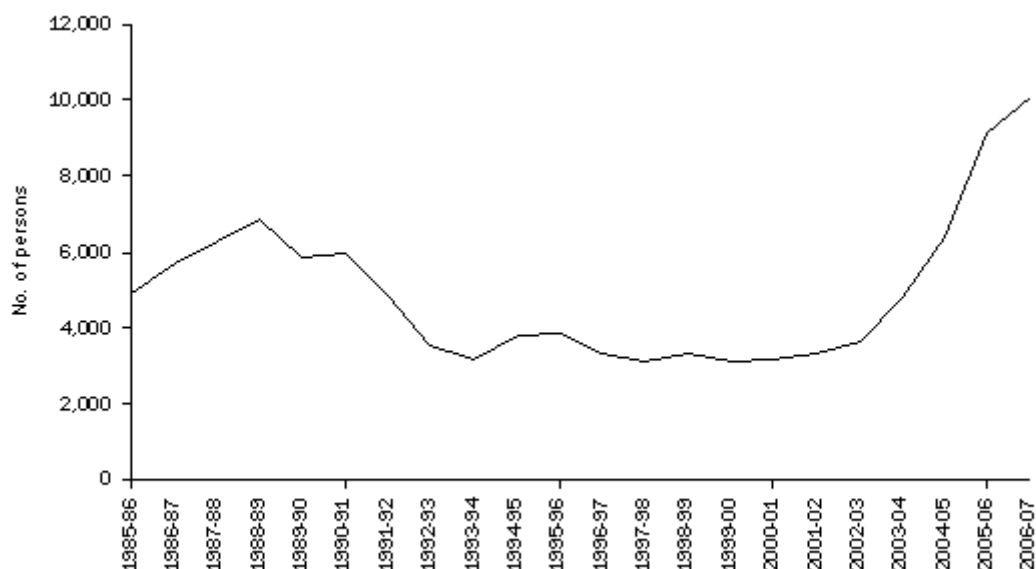
Due to their age profile, migrants in South Australia have a higher crude death rate than Australian-born residents. According to ABS data (available on request), there were 3,872 deaths of people born overseas registered in South Australia in the calendar year of 2006. This equated to a crude death rate of 12.6 deaths per 1,000 South Australian migrants. Conversely, there were 8,022 Australian-born South Australians who died in 2006; a crude death rate of 7.2 deaths per 1,000 South Australian Australian-born.

OVERSEAS MIGRATION

This section of the article provides an overview of the number of people who have migrated to South Australia (referred to by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship as settler arrivals) and the number of people who have emigrated from South Australia.

In 2006-07, there were 10,061 settler arrivals in South Australia. As shown in the graph below, there has been a dramatic increase in the number of settler arrivals in South Australia over the last few years. This is primarily due to increased migrant quotas for the Australian migration program and changes to immigration policy (www.diac.gov.au). Overseas residents (other than Australian and New Zealand citizens) who wish to live permanently in Australia are required to apply for a visa. Changes to immigration policy in recent years have made it easier for people to migrate to South Australia (including Adelaide). This is because South Australia is classified a 'low population growth' region, thus requiring lower point quotas for entry into South Australia compared with some other Australian locations (<http://www.immi.gov.au/index.htm>).

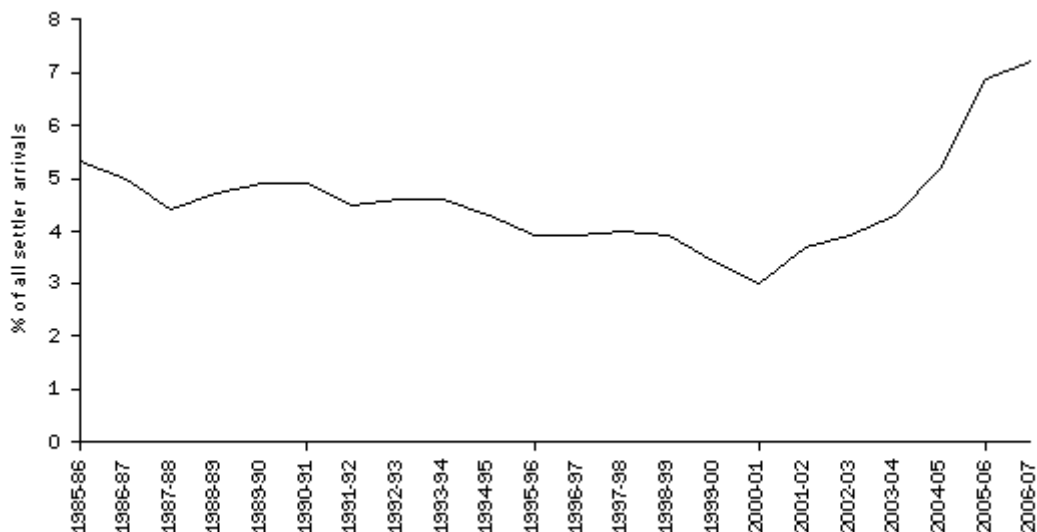
SETTLER ARRIVALS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA



Sources: [Department of Immigration and Citizenship- Settler Arrivals 2005-06\(PDF 706KB\)](#), [Department of Immigration and Citizenship - Settler Arrivals 2006-07\(PDF 492KB\)](#)

Not only have the number of settler arrivals to South Australia increased in recent years, South Australia is attracting a larger share of Australian settler arrivals. South Australia's share of all settler arrivals in Australia has increased significantly over the last 5 years from 3.0% in 2000-01 to 7.2% in 2006-07.

SETTLER ARRIVALS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA, Proportion of all settler arrivals in Australia



Sources: [Department of Immigration and Citizenship- Settler Arrivals 2005-06\(PDF 706KB\)](#), [Department of Immigration and Citizenship - Settler Arrivals 2006-07\(PDF 492KB\)](#)

According to DIAC, the number of permanent departures of overseas born people from South Australia in 2006-07 was 1,080 persons. This was slightly down from the 1,124 overseas-born persons who left South Australia for overseas in 2005-06 [Department of Immigration and Citizenship - Settler Arrivals 2006-07\(PDF 491.17KB\)](#)). Settler arrival data thus demonstrates a recent steep increase in intake figures while available data for permanent departures have remained relatively stable. As a result, the net gain of migrants from overseas migration is increasing which may alleviate the declining representation of

migrants as a proportion of the total South Australian population.

INTERSTATE MIGRATION

Historically, South Australia experiences a net loss of its population due to interstate migration. This is also true of the migrant population of South Australia. The net loss of migrants due to interstate migration is a contributing factor to the slow growth rate of that population group in South Australia.

Census figures for 2006 indicate that in the previous 5 years a total of 8,848 migrants moved to South Australia from other Australian states. However, 11,261 migrants moved out of South Australia to interstate locations within that time, resulting in a net migrant loss for 2001 to 2006 of 2,413 persons. This is a significant improvement from the net loss of 7,753 migrants in the five year period prior to the 1996 Census.

INTERSTATE MIGRATION OF MIGRANTS, South Australia - 1986 to 2006

	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006
Arrivals from other states	11,077	11,505	10,348	9,310	8,848
Departures to other states	14,556	13,344	18,101	12,517	11,261
Net interstate migration	-3,479	-1,839	-7,753	-3,207	-2,413

Source: Census of Population and Housing, data available on request

CONCLUSION

As demonstrated in this article, the migrant population in South Australia has a much older age profile than Australian born residents leading to a higher crude death rate. Over the last twenty years, the number of migrants living in South Australia has increased slightly, but as a proportion of the total population they have decreased. However, there has been a recent increase in the number of settler arrivals in South Australia and the net loss of migrants through interstate migration appears to be slowing. This may result in the current trend of a declining proportion of migrants in our population being slowed, or even reversed.

REFERENCES:

ABS, Census of Population and Housing 2006, Census Tables <<https://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/d3310114.nsf/Home/census>>

Department of Immigration and Citizenship 2006, Settler Arrivals 2005-06, viewed 21 April 2008, <http://www.immi.gov.au/media/publications/statistics/immigration-update/Settler_Arrivals0506.pdf> (PDF 706KB)

Department of Immigration and Citizenship 2007, Settler Arrivals 2006-07, viewed 21 April 2008, <<http://www.immi.gov.au/media/publications/statistics/settler-arrivals/settler-arrivals-0607.pdf>> (PDF 492KB)

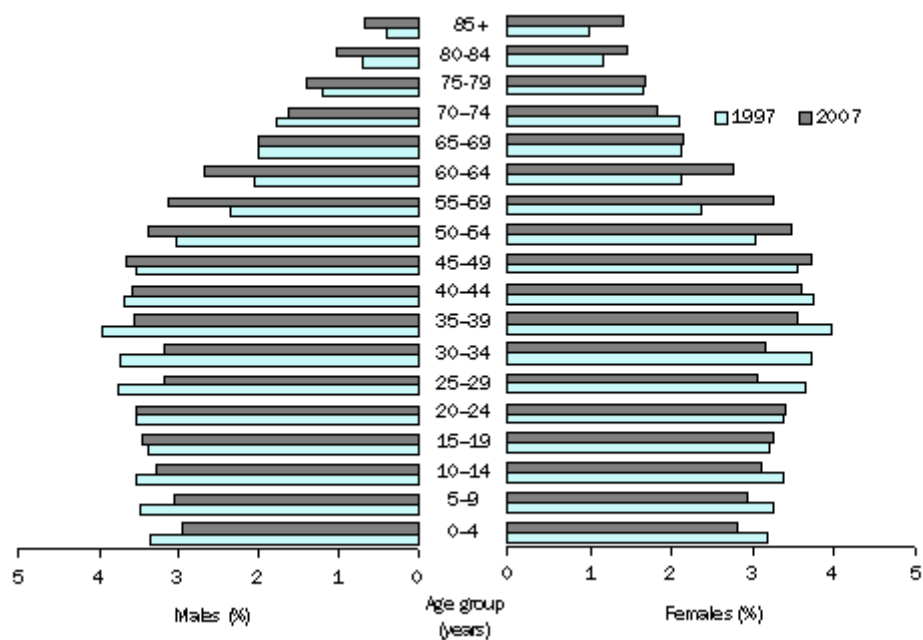
South Australia's Ageing Population and the Labour Force (Feature Article)

SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S AGEING POPULATION AND THE LABOUR FORCE

Between 1997 and 2007, the total population of South Australia increased 7.0%, from 1.48 million to 1.58 million ([Population by Age and Sex, Australian States and Territories, 2007](#)). Over this period, the median age of South Australians increased from 36 years to 39 years and the ageing of South Australia's population is projected to continue ([Population Projections, Australia 2004-2101](#)). Important contributing factors to this are sustained low levels of fertility and increasing life expectancy at birth. Due to these influences, the median age of South Australians is projected to increase to around 49 years by 2051 ([Population Projections, Australia 2004-2101](#), Series B).

Between 1997 and 2007, the number of South Australians who were aged 65 years or over increased by 31,231 people, from 209,491 persons to 240,722 persons. This was a proportional increase from 14% of the population of South Australia to 15% over this period. The proportion of the South Australian population aged 55 to 69 years increased from 13% to 16% over this period.

POPULATION STRUCTURE, Age and sex, South Australia



Source: [Population by Age and Sex, Australian States and Territories, 2007](#)

As South Australia's population ages, so will its workforce. Of all employed South Australians in 2007, 15.4% were aged 55-69 years, up from 9.2% in 1997. A further 23.5% were aged 45-54 in 2007, up from 21.9% in 1997.

EMPLOYED SOUTH AUSTRALIANS, Original

1997		2007	
Persons	Proportion of total employed	Persons	Proportion of total employed
no.	%	no.	%

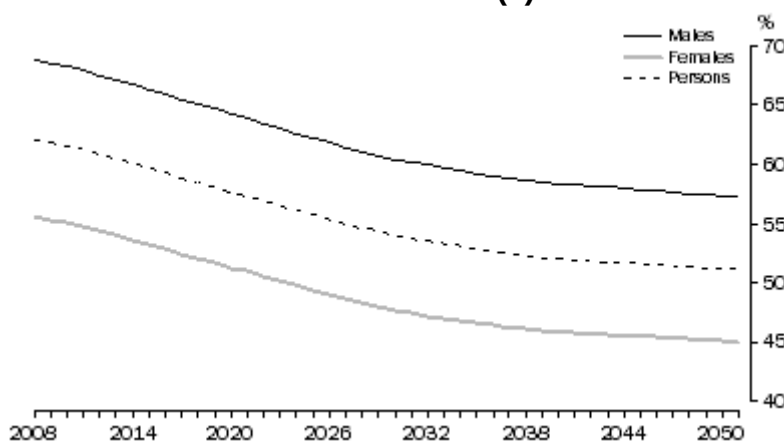
Age				
15-24 yrs	116,100	17.6	133,000	17.5
25-34 yrs	160,100	24.3	150,000	19.7
35-44 yrs	172,500	26.2	175,700	23.1
45-54 yrs	144,300	21.9	178,900	23.5
55-69 yrs	60,800	9.2	117,600	15.4
70 yrs +	4,700	0.7	6,000	0.8
Total	658,500	100.0	761,200	100.0

Source: Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery, Feb 2008

IMPLICATIONS OF AN AGEING POPULATION FOR THE LABOUR FORCE

If the population continues to age in the years ahead, there is likely to be a decline in the labour force participation rate as persons aged 55 to 69 years tend to have a low labour force participation rate compared to persons aged 15 to 54 years. In 2007, the labour force participation rate of all South Australians aged 15 and over was 62%. If the age and gender specific participation rates from 2007 remain unchanged in future years, the labour force participation rate will fall to about 51% by 2051.

PROJECTED LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE, Persons aged 15 and over - South Australia(a)



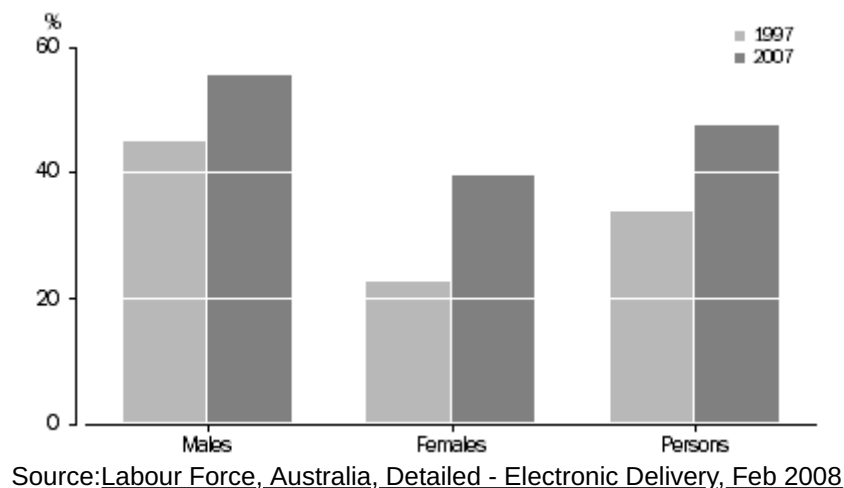
(a) Projected labour force participation rates are calculated by applying the 2007 labour force participation rates for age and sex groups to Series B population projections. No assumptions have been made about possible future changes to labour force participation rates.

Sources: Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery, Feb 2008, Population Projections, Australia, 2004 to 2101

There are specific groups which generally have low labour force participation rates such as persons aged 55 to 69 years (Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery, Feb 2008). One approach to addressing the falling labour force participation rates is to encourage people to delay retirement and stay in the workforce longer, or to attract older people who are out of the labour force back into employment.

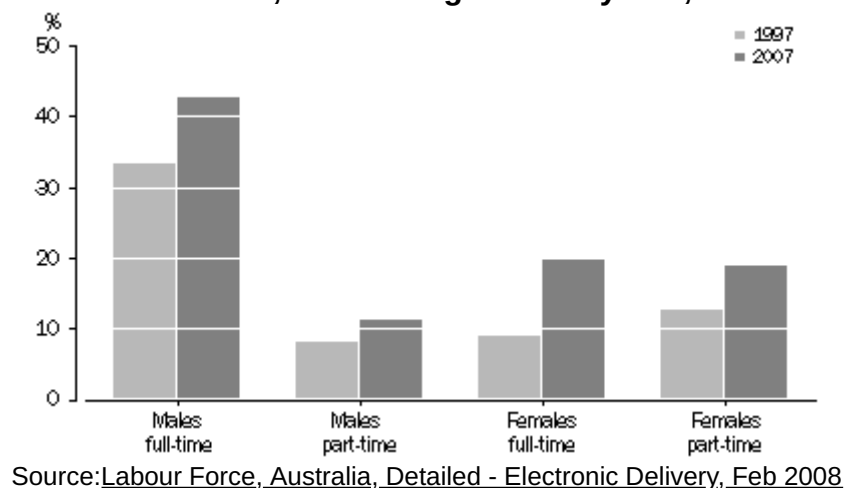
According to data from the Labour Force Survey, a greater proportion of persons aged 55 to 69 are participating in the workforce than a decade ago. Between 1997 and 2007, the labour force participation rate of those aged 55 to 69 in South Australia increased from 34% to 47%. The participation rate of females (23% to 40%) increased more than that of males (45% to 55%) over this period.

LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE, Persons aged 55-69 years, South Australia



There has been increased participation of persons aged 55 to 69 years in the labour force. As outlined above, there has been particularly strong growth in the participation of females aged 55 to 69 years. The proportion of females aged 55 to 69 years who were employed full-time increased from 9% in 1997 to 20% in 2007 while the proportion employed part-time increased from 13% to 19%. There has also been strong growth in the employment of males aged 55 to 69 years over this 10 year period.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS, Persons aged 55-69 years, South Australia



SUMMARY

The data presented in this article shows that the South Australian population is ageing and it is projected to continue to age in the future. If current age and sex specific labour force participation rates remain unchanged in the future, the aggregate labour force participation rate could decrease to slightly more than 50%. Increasing participation rates in groups with low labour force participation rates would be a way of addressing the fall in projected participation rates. One promising sign for South Australia is a greater proportion of those aged 55 to 69 years are participating in the labour force compared to 10 years ago.

REFERENCES:

Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery, Feb 2008 (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)
Population by Age and Sex, Australian States and Territories, 2007 (cat. no. 3201.0)
Population Projections, Australia, 2004 to 2101 (cat. no. 3222.0)

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